

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-07 COME-00 AGR-05 AID-05 CIAE-00

DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01

PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 /073 W

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P R 072144Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY SAN SALVADOR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 8527

INFO AMEMBASSY GUATEMALA

AMEMBASSY MANAGUA

AMEMBASSY SAN JOSE

AMEMBASSY TEGUCIGALPA

C O N F I D E N T I A L SAN SALVADOR 2680

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, EAGR, EAID, ES, HO

SUBJECT: MEETING WITH PRESIDENT MOLINA

1. ON JULY 3, I MET WITH PRESIDENT MOLINA AT A RECEPTION GIVEN BY THE HEAD OF THE DIPLOMATIC CORPS, THE NUNCIO, TO CELEBRATE THE 12 ANNIVERSARY OF THE CORONATION OF POPE PAUL VI. THIS IS THE ONLY DIPLOMATIC FUNCTION THAT PRESIDENT ATTENDS.

2. I COMPLIMENTED THE PRESIDENT ON HIS ADDRESS TO THE NATION ON HIS THIRD ANNIVERSARY AS PRESIDENT. I THEN TOLD THE PRESIDENT THAT I WAS PLEASED THAT HE HAD ANNOUNCED THE AGRARIAN TRANSFORMATION ACT, WHICH THE PRESIDENT AND I HAD DISCUSSED SOME MONTHS AGO, AT WHICH TIME I SUGGESTED THE USE OF THE WORD TRANSFORMATION WOULD BE MORE APPROPRIATE THAN REFORM.

3. THE PRESIDENT STATED THAT HE SINCERELY WANTED TO HELP THE CAMPESINOS AND THE LESS FORTUNATE PEOPLE IN EL SALVADOR AND THAT ISTA WAS AN IMPORTANT PART OF HIS ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM. THE PRESIDENT ASKED ME FOR THE CONTINUED U.S. EMBASSY SUPPORT IN THE AGRICULTURE AREA AND SPECIFICALLY FOR OUR SUPPORT OF THE AGRARIAN
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TRANSFORMATION PROGRAM. I ASSURED THE PRESIDENT THAT I

WOULD DO EVERYTHING POSSIBLE TO CONTINUE U.S. SUPPORT IN THE AGRICULTURE SECTOR AND OF ISTA THROUGH CENTA AND OTHER AID PROGRAMS. I SUGGESTED THAT THE SUCCESS OF ISTA WOULD DEPEND ON HOW WELL THE LAW WAS IMPLEMENTED BY THE GOES.

4. I ASKED THE PRESIDENT IF THE MEETING OF THE CA PRESIDENTS WAS FIRM FOR COSTA RICA ON JULY 10, AND IF HE WOULD ATTEND. THE PRESIDENT SAID THAT HE HAD ACCEPTED AND WOULD ATTEND. HE HOPED THAT THE MEETING WOULD CREATE A FAVORABLE ATMOSPHERE AND THAT SOME MECHANISM COULD BE FOUND FOR RENEWING THE BILATERAL DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN EL SALVADOR AND HONDURAS AND THAT OTHER PROBLEMS OF CONCERN TO CENTRAL AMERICA WOULD BE ADDRESSED. THE PRESIDENT ENDED THE CONVERSATION BY SAYING THAT HE WOULD CALL ME WHEN HE RETURNED FROM COSTA RICA TO INVITE ME TO A LUNCHEON TO INCLUDE THE MINISTER OF DEFENSE, OUR DEFENSE ATTACHE COL. RODRIGUEZ, AND OUR DCM MR. MOSKOWITZ. CAMPBELL

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